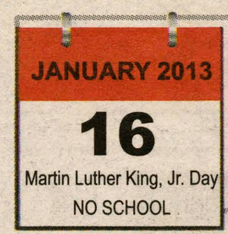
LIBRARY LEGACY

The Emerson Rare Book Room reopened following a ceremony honoring College benefactor Mrs. Patsy Couper. **See page 3.**



SCHEDULE SHIFT

The proposal to make Martin Luther King, Jr. Day a holiday has elicited much debate on campus. **See page 6.**

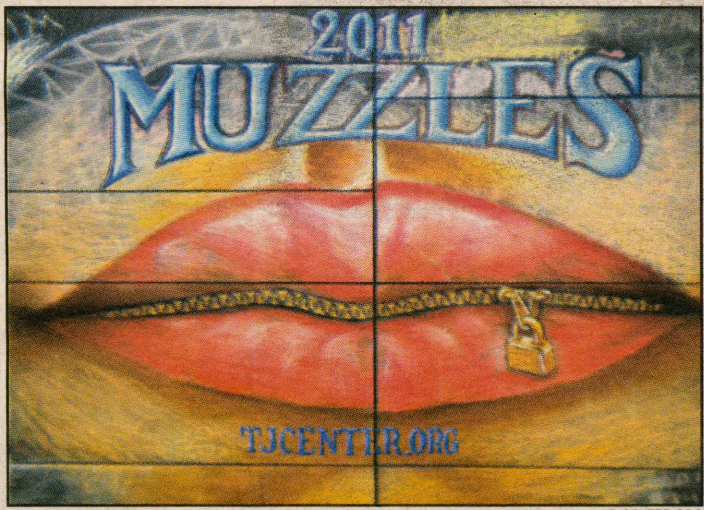
STAYIN' ALIVE

Silent Disco has been a Hamilton highlight for the last five years, and the legacy will continue. **See page 10.**

THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Volume LI Number 23



TJCENTER.ORG

Above is a mural created by artist Sam Welty on a First Amendment Monument in Virginia in honor of the 20th anniversary of the Jefferson Muzzle awards.

Hamilton "wins" a Muzzle award

by Kate Tummarello '11
Online Managing Editor

On Sept. 27, 2010, the College held a presentation on sexual assault. Over six months later, people are still talking about it.

On April 9, The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression announced the 2011 Jefferson Muzzle winners, or the groups deemed by the Center to have committed the most "egregious or ridiculous affronts to free expression," according to their website. For requiring first-year men to attend the sexual assault program "She Fears You" as part of New Student Orientation, Hamilton was on the list of "winners."

As part of the extended orientation program, the College invited Keith E. Edwards, founder of the group Men Ending Rape, to speak to first-year men about their role in the perpetuation of the "rape culture" on campus last fall. According to Edwards's website, his program "uses dialogue, activities and a multi-media presentation so that both men and women are encouraged to be active in changing the rape culture on campus, a culture that encourages or condones

*see **Muzzle**, page 2*

Student Center receives LEED certification

by Rachel Pohl '11
Senior Editor

The Sadove Student Center, Hamilton's most recently renovated building on campus, is home to the bookstore, WHCL radio station, media center, Euphoria and art resource room. Its central location and spacious meeting areas make it one of students' favorite spots. Eight months after the building's completion, Sadove received LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification. Sadove is the third building on campus to receive the certification, following the Skenandoa House's Silver certification in 2006 and the Kirner-Johnson Building's Gold certification in 2009 (after renovation).

LEED certification was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, responsible for providing third-party verification that a building was designed and built with the intention of improving water efficiency, energy savings, CO emissions and improved indoor environmental quality. LEED certification is granted by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI), an organization that distributes point across five environmental categories: water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources and indoor environmental quality. After submitting an application documenting compliance with the requirements of the rating system and paying certification fees, a building can be LEED certified. There are four levels of certification: certified, silver, gold and platinum.

*see **Sadove**, page 4*

Campus welcomes accreditors

Committee gives thorough inspection of Hamilton academics, ethics

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

Last week, in a campus-wide email addressed to the entire Hamilton community, President Joan Hinde Stewart highlighted a select group of nine individuals consisting of faculty and administrators from nine different colleges and universities.

These individuals represented the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), which is responsible for accrediting institutions of higher education in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands. For three consecutive days, the team visited Hamilton to learn and experience what a "Hamilton education" really means.

According to the MSCHE, its grant of accreditation to a particular college or university "instills public confidence in institutional mission, goals, performance and resources through its rigorous accreditation standards and their enforcement." Essentially, it checks that schools are backing up the education they market to the public.

If a school fails to receive accreditation, it shows that school's educational and ethical weaknesses, which can affect everything from the school's reputation to the number of future prospective students.

So what did the MSCHE team do here while at Hamilton? "Team members interviewed faculty, students, staff and administrators and talked by telephone with several trustees," Stewart said. They met with various groups and committees including, for example, the Committee on Academic Policy, the Planning Committee, academic department chairs and senior staff." Stewart further went on to write that an oral preliminary report on the team's findings was given by the team chair, President Janet Riggs of Gettysburg College, in which she "centered her remarks on the open curriculum (including advising, educational goals and learning assessment) and diversity. [Overall], she was very positive about the education being provided to Hamilton students."

A key thing that President Stewart emphasized was the self-study compiled by the College's Office of Institutional Research. This was the main document that the Middle States Team looked at to base their decision on.

According to Interim Dean of Faculty Pat Reynolds, who co-chaired the self-study with Assistant Dean of Faculty for Institutional Research Gordon Hewitt,

*see **Middle States**, page 2*

Students, faculty, alumni gather at AHI Colloquium to discuss modern politics

by Keith MacArtney '13
Opinion Editor

This past weekend, the Alexander Hamilton Institute (AHI) held its fourth annual Carl B. Menges '51 Colloquium at Turning Stone Resort, bringing students and faculty from Hamilton and other institutions of higher learning together to discuss public policy and political theory.

This year's topic was "Law, Technology, and American Constitutional Democracy: Curing the Mischiefs of Faction in the 21st Century." Specific panels were held on "Reconsidering Federalist 10 in the 21st Century," "Campaign Finance Before and After Citizens United," "The Future of Campaigns and Political Parties," "Technology, Corruption and Governance," "The Future of Citizenship" and the question of "A Revolution in the News Media."

Panelists were drawn from Hamilton's own faculty as well as distinguished outside experts. Two of the panelists and several of the colloquium attendees were Hamilton graduates, who offered a look into how the passion for learning and engagement continues post-graduation.

AHI Senior Fellow and moderator of this year's colloquium Theodore Eismeier, professor of Government, found this particularly heartwarming. He said, "Outside the formal sessions, I saw students interacting not only with our experts but [also] with distinguished Hamilton alumni like Carl Menges '51 and Fran Musselman '50. It all reminded [me] of how strong the bonds of the Hamilton intellectual life can be."

As an authority on campaign finance reform, panelist and keynote speaker Marc Elias '90 began passionate discourse

HAMILTON.EDU

*see **AHI**, page 3*

PHOTO BY PHIL CONKLING '14

Senior Kerry Coughlin presents on her No More Deaths spring break experience.

College prepares for reaccreditation process

from ***Middle States****, page 1*

"It was a lengthy process that started in the fall of 2008. Gordon Hewitt and myself co-chaired the self-study, and we had a steering committee of about a dozen faculty and administrators, who in turn chaired a number of subcommittees, which looked at each of the 'standards' on which Middle States evaluates each institution in its purview."

There were over 70 people involved in those committees, and many more contributed to the subcommittees' respective work in gathering data and documenting our meeting of these standards." A PDF copy of the self-study can be found at http://www.hamilton.edu/oir.

Both Stewart and Reynolds mentioned that the written version of the preliminary report will not be available for a few weeks, and that the final official version of the team's findings won't be available until June. However, Reynolds hinted at what the Hamilton community should expect from the findings. "We are very pleased that we passed with flying colors, being commended for the many things that we do, including our programs, governance, assessment of learning goals, etc.," he said.

Stewart thanks "to Gordon Hewitt and Pat Reynolds for the immense amount of thoughtful hard work that they have done over the past two years, since [the] decennial reaccreditation process began," including all other participants.

What should the Hamilton community conclude from all of this?

"[It] affirms our place among the finest liberal arts colleges in the country," remarked Reynolds.

NO MORE DEATHS | Students discuss spring break humanitarian trips

by Sarah Destin '14
News Writer

Rather than sitting on the beach and relaxing, nine Hamilton students gave up their time off from school in order to experience a different type of spring break vacation.

Instead of taking a trip for pleasure, these students went to Tucson, AZ to volunteer with No More Deaths, a humanitarian aid organization on the U.S./Mexico border. Through No More Deaths, students are able to provide migrants with direct aid and learn more about the legal issues behind illegal immigration. On April 20, the students who participated in No More Deaths presented their experiences in the Bristol Hub.

"When we arrived in Arizona, we first went to a church affiliated with No More Deaths to undergo training. We learned about border history, legal issues and how to provide a variety of types of basic medical care," leader Kerry Coughlin '11 said.

Once in the desert, the students would go on two patrols a day in order to see if there were any migrants in need of assistance, and to leave food and water at various checkpoints along the trails.

"Sometimes we were on trails known to be frequented by migrants in order to see if we came across anyone who needed any assistance," Coughlin said. "Other times, we would go on trails not yet explored in order to help No More Deaths get more information on where migrants are traveling so that in the future we can improve and better target our efforts to help them."

While students did not actually come across any migrants this year, they have come across migrants in previous years.

"Last year, several Hamilton students came across migrants and provided some basic care to them on the trail," Coughlin said. "This year, we did not come across anyone, but nonetheless encountered a large amount of debris, indicating that migrants were around us and were most likely traveling by night, when it is safer."

As well as providing humanitarian aid to migrants, several of the students were able to attend an Operation Streamline hearing, which is where deportations are determined.

This if the fourth spring that Hamilton students have been participating in No More Deaths. According to students, No More Deaths has become much larger and more organized in its efforts over the past few years.

Group "awards" Hamilton a Muzzle for first-year orientation

from ***Muzzle****, page 1*

rape to happen."

The decision to bring Edwards to campus for a mandatory presentation attracted a lot of criticism from individuals and groups off of the Hill. In an article on the National Association of Scholars [NAS] website, NAS writer Ashley Thorne said, "programs like this one tend to create a hostile environment for men. This emotion-driven presentation treats audience members as those in need of thought reform—bigots who must change their beliefs and actions."

In an article on the *Washington Examiner* website, former *Examiner* columnist J.P. Freire wrote, "The truth is, Edwards runs a racket. If his seminars were optional for attendees, or if they had to pay for the seminars themselves, no one would attend."

Other 2011 winners include the Obama Administration and the Transportation Security Administration. In explaining their decision to award Hamilton with a Muzzle, The Thomas Jefferson Center cited the mandatory element of the presentation. "Requiring first-year men to attend a presentation billed as a 'cognitive and emotional intervention' speaks of forced indoctrination that is the very opposite of freedom of conscience," their website said. "As an institution of higher learning that promotes itself as being committed to teaching students to "think for themselves," it fell short of its promise in this instance."

In response to the criticism expressed both in the fall and more recently, Dean of Students Nancy Thompson—who's office plays a large role in organizing New Student Orientation—defends the College's decision to bring Edwards to campus for a mandatory presentation. "We will continue to provide education for our students about sexual assault prevention, policy, law and resources," Thompson said. "To do so is both a moral and legal imperative."

Gamma Xi collects clothing for local low-income youth

by Kate Moore '12
Managing Editor

The end of the semester is just weeks away, and the task of packing up one's dorm room looms near. Each spring, the sisters of Gamma Xi offer an outlet to students whose wardrobes seem to have doubled in size over the course of the past year.

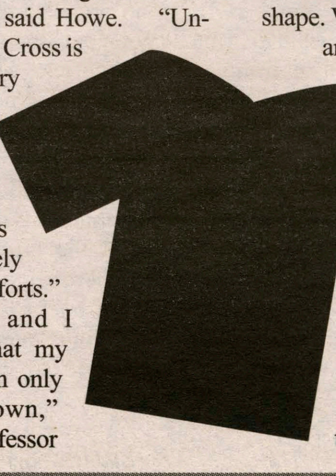
"We [organize the drive] because it is a way to get new [Gamma Xi] members involved in the philanthropy process," said Lauren Howe '13, philanthropy chair of Gamma Xi. "As a society, we like to have fun but we also want to make sure we are giving back to the larger community."

Collections were accepted in Beinecke from April 13-15. In addition, students with an exceptional amount of clothing were able to schedule pick-up from their dorms. Professors also contributed to the clothing drive.

"Back in Argentina I participated in various community service organizations. I remember giving clothes to the kids and seeing how 'that old t-shirt buried in my closet' became a brand-new gift to someone else. I remember the children would be extremely grateful for a very long time," said Nico Keller Sarmiento '13. "When I heard that Gamma was organizing a clothing drive, I thought it would be a great opportunity to help out children in our community. Gamma girls are doing a great job and it's a pleasure to help!"

Donations go to the Thea Bowman House in Utica, which serves low-income and at-risk youth and their families through structured educational programs and social enrichment.

"This year, we also wanted to donate clothing to the Red Cross in light of the recent disaster in Japan," said Howe. "Unfortunately, the Red Cross is only taking monetary donations, so all of our clothing will go to the Thea Bowman House, since they are always in need and extremely appreciative of our efforts."



"My family and I donated clothes that my daughter, who is an only child, had outgrown," said Associate Professor of Chemistry Ian Rosenstein. "The clothes ranged from an unworn pair of shoes that never fit her well to shirts, sweaters and pants that she had outgrown but were still in good shape. With no other children in the family and no relatives living nearby, we were very happy to be able to donate the clothes to a good cause in hopes that other kids would be able to use them."

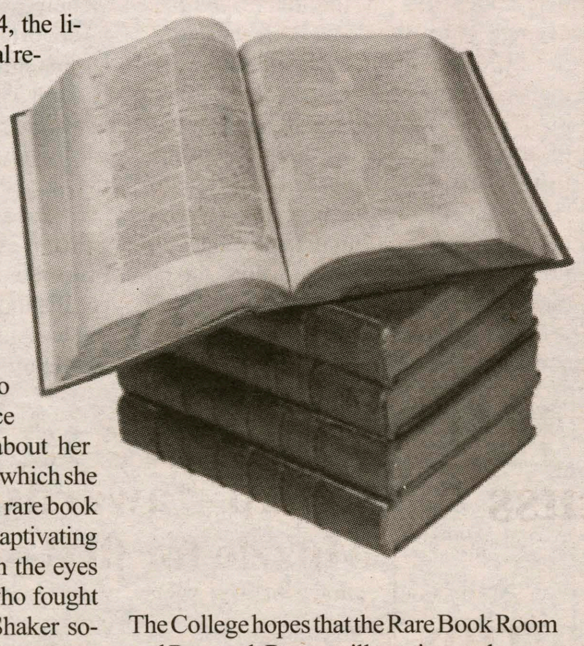
The Spring Clothing Drive has enjoyed great success during the past four years, and this year was no exception. The sisters of Gamma Xi look forward to holding the drive again in the years to come.

College opens rare book and research rooms in library

by Jordyn Taylor '12
News Writer

If you're looking for sources for your final research papers, you might want to make the trek up to the third floor of Burke Library.

On the afternoon of April 14, the library proudly celebrated the formal re-opening of the Emerson Rare Book Room and the dedication of the Patricia Pogue Couper Research Room. The re-opening occurred on the second floor landing of the library and featured speeches by President Joan Hinde Stewart and Couper Librarian Randall Ericson, a ribbon cutting and tours of the new facility.



Later that night, Dr. Ilyon Woo delivered a lecture in the Science Center's Kennedy Auditorium about her new book, *The Great Divorce*, for which she conducted research in Hamilton's rare book room. Woo's book gives readers a captivating view into Shaker society through the eyes of Eunice Chapman, a woman who fought to recover her children from a Shaker society in New Hampshire. Hamilton's rare book room contains a plethora of Shaker documents and artifacts, the likes of which Woo struggled to find anywhere else over the 12-year course of her research.

The Emerson Rare Book Room is located on the third floor of the Burke Library. According to the library's website, this special collection contains around 45,000 items, including printed works, manuscripts, maps, prints, photographs and ephemera, while the archives add another 21,000 items.

The College hopes that the Rare Book Room and Research Room will continue to be useful to scholars both on and off the Hill.

Elizabeth Scholz '13 said, "I'm a history major and I write a lot of research papers. I spend a lot of time in the library and it's cool to know that I have this resource available."

AHI Colloquium provides for diverse ideological discussion among students, faculty, alumni

from AHI, page 1

on the effects of technology on American representative government. Elias is currently a Partner at Perkins Coie, a national leader in legal counsel in Washington, D.C.

In response to Elias's opening remarks, panelist and Government Professor Andrew Milstein said, "I thought Marc's keynote address was very compelling, and I think it set a great tone of the colloquium. The AHI is a conservative institute, and I thought it showed a remarkable confidence in [its] vision by inviting a man who has been a lawyer for the Democratic party, from the Kerry-Edwards campaign, to the Franken-Coleman recount, to, as [he] himself puts it, pretty much every Democrat in the Senate."

Such bipartisanship is one of the professed goals of the AHI. Professor Eismeier, moderator of the panels, commented, "The last time I checked, we had 80 AHI Undergraduate Fellows, including, for the second straight year, the presidents of the College Democrats and the College Republicans."

AHI Fellow and Co-President of Hamilton College Democrats Olivia Waxman '11 said, "I was very impressed by the distinguished panelists, whose opinions came from across the political spectrum. I received a well-balanced view of issues like campaign finance and the future of the news business."

The wide range of expertise among the panelists made for exceptional discussion. Frank Vlossak '89 is a principal at the Williams and Jenson lobbying firm. Bradley Smith is a legal professor at Capital University and is the former Chairman of the Federal Election Commission and a leading conservative scholar on campaign finance. Zephyr Teachout is now a legal professor at Fordham University after her involvement as the national director of the Sunlight Foundation and director of Internet Organizing for Dean for America. Many other prominent scholars from leading colleges and universities joined these voices.

According to Eismeier, "The panelists left the two day session excited by the discussions and arguments, deeply impressed by the AHI and wowed by the engagement and thoughtfulness of Hamilton students."

When asked if he would consider attending future AHI discussions, Professor Milstein, a first time AHI panelist, responded, "Absolutely. The colloquium was a very unique experience for me as an academic. Usually, we submit proposals to attend conferences, write a paper and attend panels that are largely made up of other academics in our field and that are, by and large, only attended by other academics. While this is important, this colloquium reminded me that extended time for conversations with people from other disciplines and the real political world and with an audience made up of students is truly important."

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC News

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

Williams College

They're inconvenient, tempting and, sometimes, the best thing one needs during the day: naps. One student, Sora Kim '13, has decided to exploit the precious art that is napping and has created a blog entitled, "Ephs Sleeping in Public," according to *The Williams Record.* The *Record* further reports that Kim based her blog off the viral blog, "Asians Sleeping in the Library" and that it originally started as a Facebook photo album.

The blog, according to The *Record*, "features photos taken by the blogger herself and depends on photos that students email to Kim of their peers napping. While the photos provide much of the entertainment, the witty captions, which are either sent by the photographer or imagined by Kim, are also an integral component of the blog."

To say the least, many students featured on the blog are quite surprised when they see themselves passed out, as a new addition to the ever-expanding blogosphere. "I was pretty surprised when I saw myself on the blog. It was a bad angle too," Tat Udomritthiruj '13 told *The Record.* "I found out about it…through a text that woke me up," said Sara Finkle '14.

As popular as this blog has become, The *Record* noted wide "concern amongst the student body about being caught snoozing in less-than-ideal positions, with the traditional drool trickling, open mouth expression...growing." Then what's the lesson learned here? If you want to take a nap, do it in your room.

Middlebury College

Pathik (Tik) Root '12, who was being held prisoner in Syria for allegedly partaking in popular protests against the government, has returned safely back to Middlebury and his friends and family. Root's imprisonment by Syrian security forces was reported in *The Spectator* the week of April 1, with his status at that time unclear. Since then, help from many different parties, including Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Ambassador of Syria to the United States Imad Moustapha, helped Root come into U.S custody.

The Middlebury Campus reported, "Root's story also gained notoriety through a 'tweet' from [the] 2010 commencement speaker and *New York Times* columnist Nicholas D. Kristof, as well as thorough coverage by national and international news organizations." However, Root was never aware of all the coverage his case was getting or of the concerted effort to bring him home. "'The College community has just been so amazing throughout [the process]," Root told the *Campus.*

Some conclude that Syrian action taken against Root characterizes the fear and uncertainty from the Middle Eastern governments during this revolutionary time, but some say it was a shock that it happened to an American. "The fact that it happened to [Root] as an American, that was surprising," said Quinn Mecham, assistant professor of political science. "The Syrian government is trying to figure out what's going on…so they're looking for all possible causes." Nonetheless, everyone, including the U.S. government, is happy that Root's retrieval was safe, clean and quick.

Tufts University

No matter where one goes in the U.S., he or she would be hard-pressed to find many who did not know the Boston Marathon. This year marked the event's 115th anniversary, and *The Tufts Daily* reported over 200 Tufts students joined the ranks of the more than 25,000 runners deciding to participate in the 26.2 mile trek. "We had an unusually high 99 percent rate of completion [from the students]," said Don Megerle, director of the President Marathon's Challenge (PMC). The challenge, which was started five years ago, by current President Lawrence Bacow, is meant to have Tufts students push themselves while still having fun. Megerle continued to tell *The Daily*, "Only one Tufts runner was unable to finish the race due to severe dizziness and dehydration, for which she was hospitalized and then released after a few hours."

Juliana Slocum, a senior who Megerle said ran the fastest female time of the Tufts runners at 3:25:27, told *The Daily*, "It was awesome; it was a beautiful day, and the crowd was amazing. [Plus], there's nothing like crossing the line and getting a hug from your university president." Daniel Hatfield, a graduate student at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, had the fastest Tufts time at 3 hours, 16 minutes, according to Megerle. The challenge for Tufts students was seen as a great success, and it is planned to continue for years to come. "It's going to be hard to come down from the emotional high and go to class tomorrow," Slocum added.

HAMILTON MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Picturing to Learn: how drawing science teaches

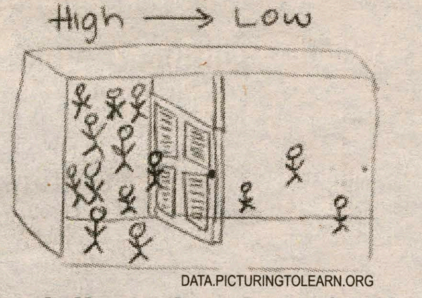
by Julia Litzky '12
Science Editor

Everyone knows the classic picture of evolution, in which an ape turns into increasingly upright species and eventually humans emerge. However, Felice Frankel wants you to know that this image is wrong. In her talk "Picturing to Learn" last Monday, Frankel explained that, although the image does accurately depict humans evolving from apes, the figure leaves out so much information, such as extinction of species, that it isn't an accurate representation of human evolution. Frankel's talk focused on how the scientific community can improve on such images to teach and convey information.

Frankel is a science photographer who specializes in designing images that clearly display the concepts researchers are trying to convey. These researchers would often use drawings to explain complex topics to Frankel, and she realized that the process provided scientists with additional clarity as well.

In 2007, Frankel began the Picturing to Learn program on the premise that having students draw images of scientific concepts, such as why the sky is blue, would help them to understand and would also help teachers identify the misconceptions students have. A database of over 3,000 drawing is now available online for anyone's use, and Frankel is exploring expanding the program to middle and high school teachers and students.

Frankel has also been the photographer for two books that use images of mostly every-day objects to help readers visualize complicated scientific topics, such as quantum mechanics. Although Frankel admits that "none of the images work without text, they are a way to engage you to ask questions."



Frankel has students draw scientific concepts, such as diffusion (above).

She stresses that representations are not exact replications of an event, but rather representations of a phenomena. The process of creating these representations clarifies thinking on the topic. Additionally, the images usually employ metaphors for what is actually happening, and, as Frankel explained, "all metaphors fall apart…All images have some sort of interpretation and we should talk more about how we represent ideas."

After the lecture, Frankel led a seminar with a group of professors on how to "makeover" their scientific figures, diagrams and powerpoint slides to more effectively convey what was necessary. She focused on removing any unnecessary images or information, such as boxes around words or unnecessary color. The goal was to " get rid of anything not helping you see. The less clutter the better." Frankel believes that such collaborative efforts in designing images can add clarity and accuracy to scientific publications and education.

Sadove awarded Gold LEED certification

from SADOVE, page 1

A 2003 study of 60 LEED buildings determined that the buildings were on average 25 to 30 percent more energy efficient, reduced indoor air pollution and increased temperature control. There are both financial and environmental benefits to earning LEED certification. According to the Green Building Certification Institute, LEED certification can "develop healthier and safer buildings for occupations, conserve energy and water, and reduce waste sent to landfills."

Whether or not Hamilton decides to receive actual certification, all new buildings designed and constructed strive to meet LEED standards and follow Hamilton's initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint. Bellona explained, "Certification provides us opportunities to engage, more directly, sustainability options with the architect, the builder and the users of the facility. It is also a statement on how we view our role in developing buildings that are lasting, friendly to our environment (locally and globally) and create space for our collective enjoyment." Bellona also noted that the new art building will not obtain certification, but they expect to employ the lessons learned from the other three LEED projects into the new museum.

Recyclemania Results

by Julia Litzky '12
Science Editor

A collaborative effort with Bon Appétit and Grounds has paid off with impressive RecycleMania results. According to Terry Hawkridge, assistant director of grounds, horticulture and arboretum, "Compared to last year, Hamilton has taken a huge leap forward. Last year our recycling rate was 16.22 percent and this year it was 27.69 percent. Last year we recycled 16.88 pounds per person and this year, 23.51 pounds per person."

Overall, Hamilton's total waste has been reduced from 837.13 tons per year in 2007 to 656.18 tons last year. This total should further decrease with last week's implementation of the post consumer composting system in the dining halls. So far, about 1,500 pounds of waste have been sent to Crane Farm, which will process the waste and care for it while it turns into compost, which can then be used as fertilizer and soil for Hamilton's grounds. Although winter composting is difficult because there is not warm storage space for the food waste where it can be stored before being sent to Crane Farm, Hawkridge estimates that composting from March to December should reduce the amount of waste Hamilton sends to the Ava landfill by about 100 tons per year. This will result in a 40 percent recycling rate and bring our waste production and management closer to that of our peer colleges, such as Middlebury and Ithaca.

Student Assembly Platforms: Elections will be from Tuesday, April 26 to Thursday, April 28

Adrian Ntwatwa
Candidate for 2012 class president

First of all, thank you for an amazing year as your class president. It has been an honor serving my class and one that I would like to continue fulfilling if given the chance. For that reason, I am running for re-election to once again perform the duties of Class President of 2012. In addition to representing the junior class, I have worked on bringing you class t-shirts as well as other plans in the works including a class barbecue! I know how to get the job done and I have the experience to prove it. So vote for Adrian!

Laura Gilson
Candidate for 2012 class treasurer

Serving as our class treasurer last year was a great experience that I would love to continue. Student Assembly is given a significant sum of money each semester for student activities and I believe that the budgeting and allotting of this money is an important responsibility. I have experience with the budget proposal process and submission requirements. I also have new ideas on how Student Assembly funds should be designated in order to benefit a greater number of Hamilton students. I promise to be dedicated to doing my best for our class and fulfilling all the duties that come with this position. Vote for me, Laura Gilson, as our class treasurer and I will do my utmost to combine my past experience with new ideas for improvement!

Hans Schulte
Candidate for 2013 class president

I feel that I am right for this position because I represent the interests of a wide demographic of students at Hamilton. As member of two sports, the Student Interest Committee, a Greek society, as well as the bowling club, I feel I have a grasp on the opinions of many different groups of students. I work well with others, and am a level -headed individual. As a member of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC), I have worked with the administration before, and am able to effectively communicate the ideas of students.

Katy Smith
Candidate for 2013 class president

Hello rising juniors! I have spent the past two years as one of your Student Assembly class representatives and have learned how to achieve our goals as a class year and as a school. I would like to apply what I've learned as a representative in an expanded role as your class president. On Student Assembly, I am currently the technology chair and I serve on the Social Traditions Committee, which plans FallFest, Citrus Bowl and FebFest. If elected, I will continue to advocate for our class and for our school.

Rachel Bristol
Candidate for 2013 class treasurer/secretary

Since I was appointed as the class of 2013 secretary/treasurer in February, I feel that I have successfully helped allocate student assembly funds in a fair and efficient manor. To me, doing this job successfully means distributing funds to a wide variety of student organizations while maximizing the number of students who benefit from every dollar spent. I look forward to the opportunity to serve our class as secretary-treasurer for a second term. I am passionate about the job, experienced and dedicated to the class of 2013!

Marla Marquez
Candidate for 2014 class president

I believe myself to be the most qualified candidate for sophomore class president because I will make the necessary changes in order to improve our 2011 to 2012 school year. I intend to strengthen the communication between the Administration and the student body along with providing a quick and easy method for the class of 2014 to voice their opinions, issues and concerns. I hope to unite the class and increase school spirit by hosting events for the class of 2014, and work with the school to allow for specified class of 2014 glasses, t-shirts, hoodies, etc. I am eager to put all your ideas into action and make life at Hamilton just a tad less stressful.

Sam Wagner
Candidate for 2014 class president

Dear 2014, I thought there were four-year terms so I wasn't planning on having to do this. Nonetheless, I want to express that I am an idea machine, not to be confused with a robot. I am not a robot. Along those lines, I am easy to talk to so please come tell me your ideas and opinions. Next year can and will be the best year ever. I have an enormous amount of experience doing what I do and I take my job very seriously. Tell your friends, "Vote Sam Wagner!"...I'm still working on a new slogan.

Curren Krasnoff
Candidate for 2014 class treasurer/secretary

As the current 2014 class treasurer/ secretary, I, Curren Krasnoff, understand the workings and obligations of the position, and have the experience to continue distributing funds fairly to the various student run organizations. With my knowledge of economics (as an econ major) and with my prior financial experience (having worked at Bel-Air Investment Advisors, a wealth management firm) I will utilize my experience and understanding of finance to serve student interests to the best of my ability. I truly enjoy being your treasurer, and am committed to continue working diligently for the class of 2014.

Growing Green Graduates

Last week, the first load of food waste from Hamilton's dining halls was moved to Crane Farm to be composted, allowing this waste to be recycled instead of sent to the dump. The commencement of the composting program is the administration's latest move toward reducing the impact Hamilton has on the environment. The recent LEED certification of the new Sadove Student Center further represents Hamilton's focus on decreasing its environmental impact. We commend the administration for its recent actions toward improving the environmental friendliness of Hamilton's dining and buildings.

We would like to see the continuation of these actions and the expansion of opportunities for students to compost outside of the dining halls. The cups in the dining halls are compostable, and yet, the option to dispose of them in compost recepticles is not available elsewhere on campus. Additionally, now that composting has begun, replacing the plastic silverware available in the dining halls and in the diner could reduce Hamilton's non-recyclable plastic consumption considerably.

The new composting system increases the amount of recycled waste per student to levels equivalent to those of other, similar-sized colleges. Hamilton's recycling rates have increased in the past few weeks thanks to the RecycleMania competition; the final results were an improvement over the recycling rates of the past few years. However, much of the improvement was due to Bon Appetit's and Grounds staff's focus on recycling. The student body was less involved than it could have been, and this highlights the challenges the administration faces in enacting meaningful environmentally-focused change on campus.

The next goal for the College, HEAG and other interested students should be to get the student body as involved in and as focused on environmental preservation as the administration is. Increasing access to the composting program could help students understand the connection between their consumption and the amount of waste they produce. Waste bins for compostable materials should be available in the residence halls, especially those which house students on the seven- or 14-meal plans who are likely to be cooking their own meals. This would allow the student body to be more actively involved in the composting program.

Green Week is another such opportunity. However, Green Week events are often attended by the same small group of students, mostly HEAG members. Although we are a small college, if everyone made slight changes to their daily routine, we could have a large impact on the environment. For example, when peer-editing, students could insert comments electronically instead of printing out each paper. For other suggestions on how to minimize negative environmental impact, see our features article on page 8. The administration has done its part to make Hamilton's daily habits and activities greener, and it's time for the student body to do the same.

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The Spectator's Letter-to-the-Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

Nevertheless, *The Spectator* has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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FACE OFF: Does the Hamilton administration actively respect students' opinions?

Hamilton faculty recently voted on a change to the end of the year schedule to accomodate a celebration of MLK Jr. Day.

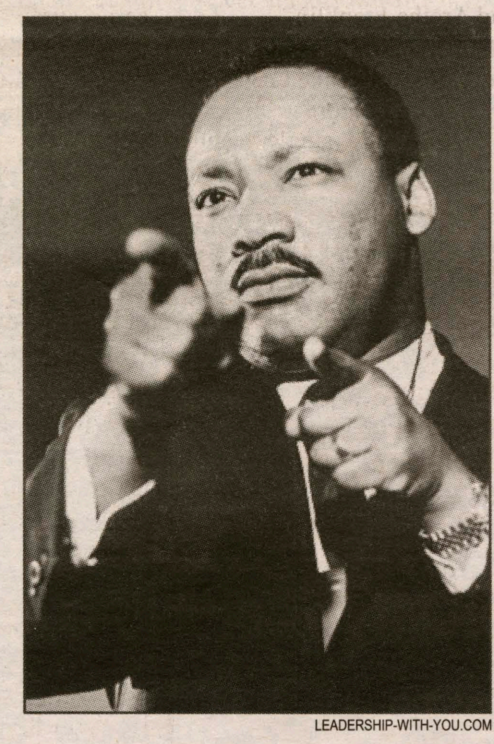
Yes, more involvement would be unproductive.

by Christopher Delacruz '13
Opinion Writer

The new 2013 spring semester schedule has affected the campus schedule in two significant ways. The first is that the faculty voted to move the Class and Charter Day Award Ceremony from 12 p.m. on a Friday to 4 p.m. on a Monday. The second effect is that the reading period will now take place on the Saturday and Sunday before Class and Charter Day and continue on the following Tuesday and Wednesday. These changes are inevitable if we are to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day because New York State accreditation regulations claim that a scheduled missing day must be accounted for with changes in the academic calendar. What makes this change truly controversial is that none of the students were asked for their input with respect to this decision.

However, there are cases in which student input is not only unnecessary, but also may disrupt the decision-making process.

According to Professor Nathaniel Strout, it is not faculty policy to include students in discussions to change scheduling, such as the length of the exam period or the classroom day schedule. Despite this rule, many students still felt the need to voice their disapproval of the decision of the faculty to change the schedule.


LEADERSHIP-WITH-YOU.COM

A couple of students voiced concerns that this change in the schedule would shorten Senior Week. Lisa Magnarelli '96 responded to this concern by claiming that the schedule change would not significantly affect Senior Week. Several students argued that having Martin Luther King Jr. day off would not encourage students to participate in community activities that day but, rather, might encourage them to sleep in. Professor Strout stated that the community events revolving around the commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. are not all done in one day but, instead, are spread throughout the week. Logically speaking, students who would choose to sleep in as opposed to going to the community activities most likely have no desire to participate in the first place. However, for the students who do wish to contribute to the community, a day off would make it much easier and more convenient for them to participate in community activities. Getting student input would also serve to prolong the decision-making process and unnecessarily complicate the decision.

The College should not search for student input in the process of making a very important decision. In this case, the decision on the part of the faculty to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day is extremely important to both American society as well as the smaller Hamilton community.

The faculty did not make this change to upset or anger the student body, but because they thought it would be best for the Hamilton community to celebrate such an important national figure. Sometimes input from the students would complicate matters and the faculty is almost always looking out for our best interests.

Martin Luther King Jr. was also one of the first Americans to embrace non-violent movements and to apply them to a community that was being plagued by violence, oppression and mental imprisonment. Even in our contemporary times, many members of the African Diaspora in America live in communities that are often referred to as the ghetto and the projects.

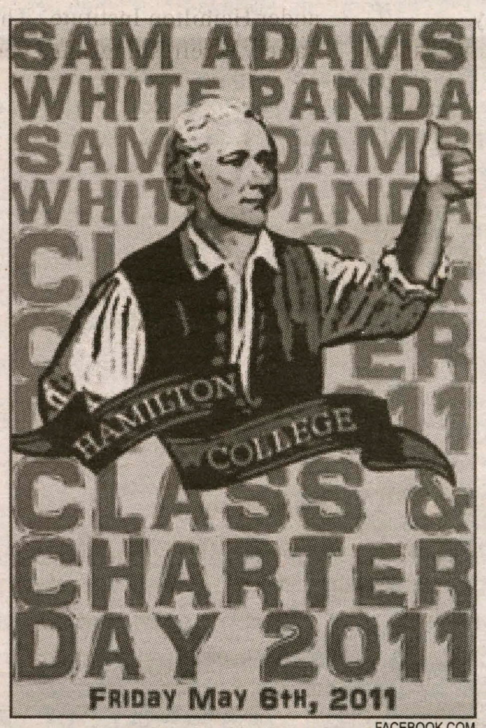
While we have made many improvements on our way to achieving equality among all people despite their physical appearance, we still have a while to go before Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream is fully accomplished. Yet his legacy can never be forgotten as he is the epitome of the civil rights movement and the struggle for equality in America that continues on today. Such a great American hero deserves proper recognition through a day of celebration without class commitments. The faculty's decision to change the calendar to reflect this important event far outweighs the costs of rescheduling our Class and Charter Day celebration.

No, decisions are made without adequate input.

by Rachel Lieb '13
Opinion Editor

A new calendar was announced for the 2013 spring semester: the semester will begin on the Tuesday after Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Class and Charter Day will be celebrated on a Monday. The administration asked the faculty for its input on this important decision, but never thought to ask the students.

According to last Monday's Student Assembly minutes, the administration presented the new change to the Student Assembly. However, it was too little, too late. Student input should have been a given on this issue, not an afterthought. It is unclear why the Faculty Academic Council only decided to acknowledge student concerns after the decision had already been made. The Student Assembly minutes read like a defense, not a discussion. As a student who loves Class and Charter Day, I worry that these changes will be the end of Class and Charter Day as we know it.



FACEBOOK.COM

In his presentation to Student Assembly, Professor Strout noted that Martin Luther King Jr. Day will still be celebrated throughout the first week of classes, like it has been for the past few years. The motives for this change, then, are still unclear.

It almost seems like we are losing a day to celebrate the work of Martin Luther King Jr. by pushing back the start of classes. Students will likely use the holiday as a travel day or an excuse to get drunk on Sunday night, knowing that they have a day to recover before classes resume.

Though Lisa Magnarelli, director of student activites, claimed that the change will not affect Senior Week, it is difficult to imagine how that is possible. Senior Week is a sacred time for the graduating class, to spend their last days on the Hill, say goodbye to their friends and enjoy their last bit of freedom before joining the "real world." Though it may seem trivial to some, a loss of two days from Senior Week, to take finals no less, is disappointing.

Other, very valid, concerns were voiced during the Student Assembly meeting that did not seem to truly defend this decision. Professor Strout, for example, pointed out that while other NESCAC schools celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, they are not accountable for the same regulations as Hamilton, which is why the day off to celebrate the holiday cannot go unnoticed. If the other NESCAC schools are not held accountable for the same rules as we are, why are we following their example? The two points do not seem to connect.

In addition, this decision was not very well publicized. It almost seemed like no one wanted the student body to know about the decision. Though there was an article in *The Spectator* announcing the change, many students rely on their email accounts for most Hamilton news.

The new end-of-year schedule is also confusing. Students are supposed to utilize Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday as a reading period, though students will still have a full day of classes on the Monday in between. What will be the purpose of those classes? It is as if the College is creating two Class and Charter Days, allowing us to binge drink on Friday and Monday with a full day to recover afterwords. This idea does not seem very well thought out.

While I respect the idea of taking time to fully celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, our current system does so very effectively. Instead of devoting a day to travel and drinking, we should continue to spend an entire week celebrating the amazing work and life of an inspirational leader.

More transparency on the part of the faculty and administration would help students better understand their decisions and could facilitate better discussion. Making certain decisions without any input from students just causes anger and aggravation. As a student, I would rather be bombarded with surveys and emails about school-wide decisions, than not be asked at all.

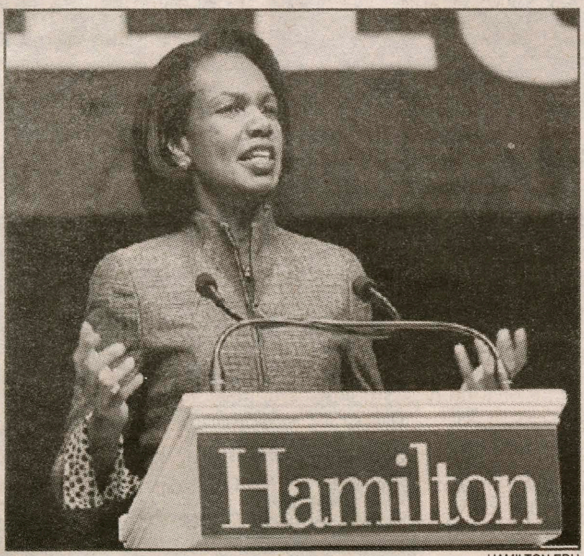
Scan the QR Code (left) or go http://students.hamilton.edu/spectator/4-21-11/opinion/face-off to vote in a poll about this Face Off. The results will be published in next week's issue.

Hamilton's selection of campus speakers does not meet expectations

by Evan Klondar '11
Editorial Page Editor

Hamilton is regularly graced with the presence of prominent scientists, authors, scholars and public figures, but the community does not often ask if these are the right people to bring to campus. Certainly, there's nothing wrong with the people who speak; academics present papers, writers share stories of their craft, and professionals provide insight into their life and career. But we must consider whether the speakers we bring– and the manner in which we bring them–add the most value to the campus community.

In particular, we should evaluate changes to the Great Names series to bring a higher quantity of prominent speakers to campus.



HAMILTON.EDU

Before criticisms are leveled, it's worth stating what the community gets right with the speakers it brings to the Hill. The speakers are incredibly diverse. Every month, speakers bring a wide variety of topics, beliefs and issues to the table. Diversity, both intellectual and cultural, is a regular feature thanks to groups like the Social Justice Institute and the Alexander Hamilton Institute. This variety is refreshing and a benefit to the community at large; anyone in any concentration and with any interests can find a lecture worth going to.

Lectures, however, rarely take place in a space bigger than a classroom. Certainly, there is a rationale for lectures specific to a few classes – and there are meaningful benefits in opening up these lectures to the public. If someone has an interest in the subject but isn't in a particular class, they gain the benefits of hearing an expert on the topic. But these lectures do not add much value to the larger community.

Events which fill up a larger forum such as the Chapel, Wellin Hall or the Field House are those designed to enrich the student body and the community at large. This is evident in the people who give these lectures: Naomi Wallace, a prominent playwright; Spike Lee, an award-winning filmmaker and Condoleezza Rice, a former Secretary of State. Such lectures, however, are rare.

Hamilton should consider re-evaluating the way it allocates funds to encourage more of the large-forum lectures. This could be achieved through two avenues: first, increasing funding for large-forum events that fill the Chapel, Events Barn and Wellin Hall.

The benefits and costs of this program are clear; more lectures, more money. But given the current economy, it is not clear whether the College can significantly increase this funding.

Alternatively, the College should consider spreading the Great Names series' funding over multiple speakers. Condoleeza Rice was, to be sure, excellent– as was Jon Stewart and Aretha Franklin.

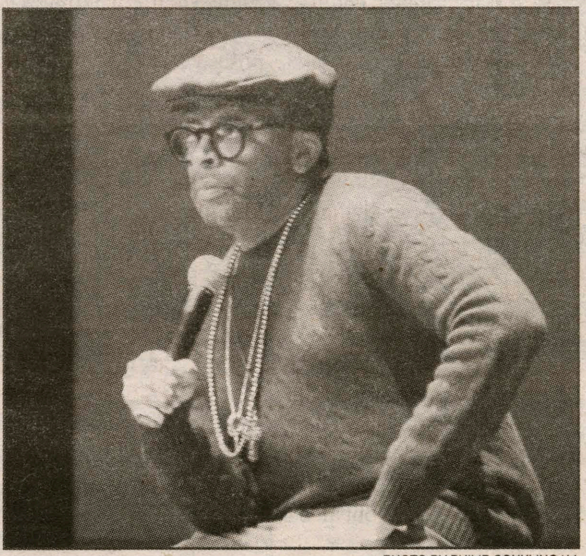
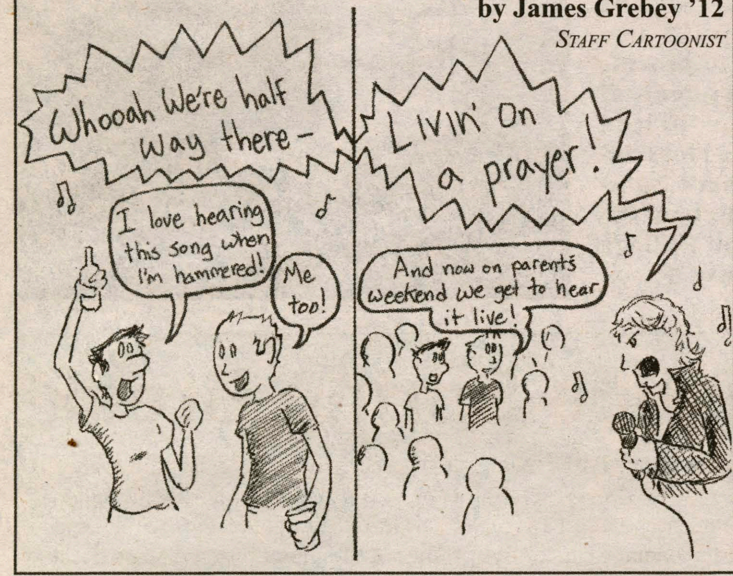


PHOTO BY PHILIP CONKLING '14

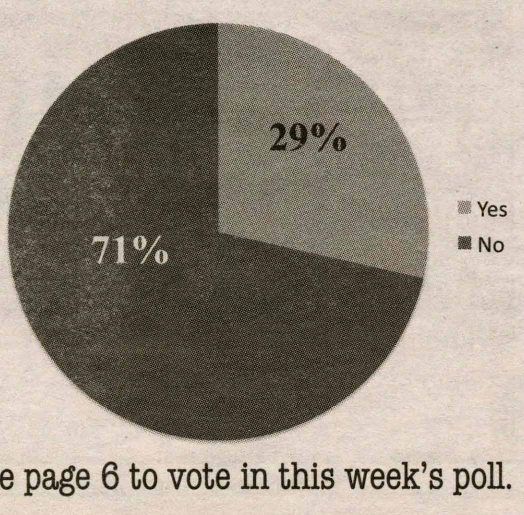
But multiple lectures from individuals of Spike Lee's caliber would add more value to the campus than a single lecture from a more prominent public figure. There is only so much wisdom that can be conveyed in a 60- or 90-minute speech. Instead of searching for who can pack the most insight into a single speech, we should work to increase the number of speakers.

This approach may lack the flair of a single "Great Name," but the community on the whole would gain more as a result. More speakers provides more diversity in every regard– more topics discussed and more people discussing them. Hamilton strives to include multiple viewpoints, and making the Great Names series a true series, with events in both the fall and spring, would affirm Hamilton's commitment to challenging and enlightening its students.

by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist



Last week's face off poll results: Does Hamilton's quarter credit policy sufficiently compensate summer internships?



See page 6 to vote in this week's poll.

Thumbs Up

Bon Jovi visits the health center: Free condoms so when you're halfway there, you won't be livin' on a prayer.

Dear screamer down the hall: I'm real happy for you and I'ma let you finish, but the Womyn's Center had the best female orgasm of all time!

Yeast, balls and a staff parting the "Red Sea"– Porno or Passover?

Sophomore Housing: HAHAHAHAHAHA-HA!!!

Pre-froshes: Smarter, thinner, easier to use... They're just like the iPad 2!

Thumbs Down

Surprise April snow: Dear Winter, I already told you this isn't going to work out. It's not you, it's–oh, no, it's you. You suck.

Feeling green on 4/20: No, seriously, I'm very ill. This is so hard to explain to professors....

You'd like to add me to your professional network on LinkedIn? I haven't felt this loved since Rocky Horror!

Holiday Changes: Good to see we've finally put those veterans, laborers and worthless Irish at the back of the bus where they belong.

Administration trades MLK for C&C, initiates first ever Blackout History Month.

Who Cares?

WHCL's computer streaming is down indefinitely: If the college radio falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?

Campus-wide weed control: They see me rollin', they hatin'.

Take Back the Night Part II: You lost it again!?

Alumni-Varsity Basketball Game: If we can beat anyone, it would be a slower, older version of ourselves.

Green Week. You see any green? All I see is mud, despair and pledges covered in both.

by Michael Magazıner '14 and Andrew Robinson '12

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Science Features

GREENER by the DAY: Green Week 2011

PHOTO BY KRISTA HESDORFER '14

PHOTO BY KRISTA HESDORFER '14

Above left, center, right: On Monday, students participated in the "Pledge to go Veg" challenge, and promised to go vegetarian for a day, a week, a month or even longer. Students signed up in front of Commons or McEwen, and could then start their pledge immediately at their next meal. Right: Green Week also saw Hamilton play host to a farmer's market. Students and off-campus venders all came together to provide an assortment of local, low-priced goods. Vendors included Tom's Natural Foods and the Hamilton College Community Farm.

PHOTO BY KRISTA HESDORFER '14

PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

Starting nine steps of conservation

Matt Martinelli, executive director of Lights Out, Green In, wants you to change the world. He doesn't want you to be a superhero — he just wants you to turn your lights off and rely on natural light for two hours every day, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (peak daylight hours). "The world's at stake once more, and the new generation — that includes you and me — must step in," said Martinelli. The following are his nine starting steps of conservation:

1. Take the 11 a.m. — 1 p.m. pledge. Go to http://www.lightsoutgreenin.org for more information.
2. Reuse. The more you reuse, the slower we fill up dumps and landfills.
3. Recycle. Once you've reused something to its fullest extent, make sure you dispose of it properly.
4. Switch to compact flourescent lights (CFLs). They'll last longer and use less electricity. You can dispose of CFLs on campus by giving them to your janitor.
5. **Use cruise control.** You'll save gas by not continually accelerating.
6. No more paper plates. "Trees are really one of our greatest allies in fighting greenhouse gasses because they take in carbon dioxide," Martinelli explained.
7. Cut out wrapping paper. Use cloth or newspaper instead.
8. Use the back side of paper. It's also cheaper to print two pages double-sided than to print them as two single-sided pages.
9. Use reusable shopping bags. Some cities, such as Washington D.C., actually charge residents for using disposable bags at the store rather than bringing their own reusable bag!

HEAG's Corner: Mountain Justice Spring Break

by Yuning Liu '13
HEAG Member

This is part of a series of articles that will be published intermittently throughout the year. They are written by HEAG members, but do not represent the opinions of the entire organization.

This year, five Hamilton students, including myself, drove to Alabama to participate in Mountain Justice Spring Break. Mountain Justice is a grassroots organization that demands the abolition of mountain top removal (MTR) or strip mining for coal. We met people from all over the United States who shared our goal of fighting for environmental justice.

This was the first time that I was fully engaged in a grass-roots organization and had insight into how such organizations fight for citizen's rights. During the trip, we attended a lot of lectures about the facts of MTR in the Appalachian region and how to organize and fundraise for an NGO. At the end of the week, we also participated in peaceful protests.

Most of the lecturers had long been engaging in the activities of mountain justice. Though I really admired their action and sprit, I felt that their opinions and perspectives were not comprehensive, because they tend to simplify the MTR issue. They assumed that coal companies came to the mountain region to conduct strip mining only for the sake of money. Although this is to some extent true, the main incentive for coal companies' exploitation of coal is consumers' strong demand for coal. Since the world economy is fossil fuel based, the strong need for coal will continue and thus coal companies will always be motivated to exploit coal.

Even if people in one area successfully protect their residences and keep the coal companies away, it doesn't mean that the strip mining will be stopped. The only result I can think of is that coal companies moving to other areas to continue strip mining in order to satisfy the massive demand.

If people in other areas aren't aware of the environmental damage caused by mountain top removal and don't protest against it fiercely, coal companies will probably move to those places for coal exploitation. It seems that people in the Appalachians have succeeded in protecting the ecosystem of their homeland, while others suffer from the transferring of the mining sites to their living place. Therefore, if our economic system remains unchanged, coal companies will continue to flow into coal-abundant places where there are no obstacles to their strip mining. As a result, I am a little bit unsure as to whether Mountain Justice can achieve complete justice, regardless of the region.

Despite this doubt, the overall experience of Mountain Justice Spring Break was amazing and allowed students to think, to do and to contribute. I strongly recommend that Hamilton students form a team next year to further support the movement.

WWW.MJSB.ORG

Around the world: Bristol Fellow Alex Dotson

by Sarah Destin '14
FEATURES WRITER

It's hard to ignore hair. But for Alex Dotson '11, hair is far more than just an annoying part of her morning routine or a bunch of dead cells. According to Dotson, hair has the power to dictate how a woman is viewed from the moment she enters a room. Whether she chooses to sport a blonde pixie cut, brunette curls or a fire engine-red mohawk, her hair will serve as a physical representation of certain aspects of her character.

Dotson sees hair as more than a crucial part of a woman's identity—it will be her life for the next year. She won the 2011 Bristol Fellowship to continue her research of politics of hair in India, South Africa, Ghana, Brazil and the Dominican Republic.

Dotson first seriously began considering applying for a Bristol Fellowship in her sophomore year, but did not decide conclusively on a topic until her junior year.

"I was in a Feminist Methodology and Research class and we were asked to pick a project to research on throughout the semester. I was sitting there right in the middle of class when I had this 'aha' moment, and I knew what I wanted to focus my project for the Bristol Fellowship on," Dotson reminisced. "Immediately after class, I went to Ginny Dosch's office and told her that I wanted to do my project on the politics of hair and how her hair shapes a woman's identity in the black community."

The Bristol Fellowship is meant to provide financial support to student's to pursue an independent international project that they are incredibly passionate about. Recipients of the Bristol Fellowship are awarded $23,000, which they are able to use to travel and live in one or more countries for a year.

"Alex's project is fueled in equal measure by academic research on black hair culture, an abiding interest in African studies, a lively curiosity about the hair trade and related cultural shifts and her personal experiences with hair, including both the frustration and the fun," Dosch said.

Hair has always been important to Dotson, and Dotson's experiences with her own hair add a personal touch to her research.

"I remember each time I got ready to go somewhere for the first time the thought 'what am I going to do with my hair?' always pops into my head," said Dotson. "When I went abroad to Spain, or first came to Hamilton I would always have to talk to my hairdresser first to see what we were going to do about my hair."

Dotson's own concerns about styling her hair go back to her feelings about her hair as a child. "I remember telling my mom that I have bad hair. I would say, 'I'm tired of this hair. I break combs going through it,'" Dotson said.

Dotson feels that the current international notions of beauty are dictated by Western norms of what a woman's hair ought to look like. In her research, Dotson looks at the products and procedures that women of color use and undergo in order to subscribe to Western society's notion of beauty.

One example of this is the current trend in exporting straight Indian hair to key destinations such as South Africa, Ghana, Brazil and the Dominican Republic. "Indian men, women and children go to temples in India and shave their heads as a sacrifice to the God Krishna, as hair is a representation of vanity," said Dotson. "The temples that have shaved the heads then auction off this hair to manufacturing companies that clean the hair and then ship it off to key destinations. From there, women of color are using this hair to create an identity of what they see as being beautiful and professional in the Western world."

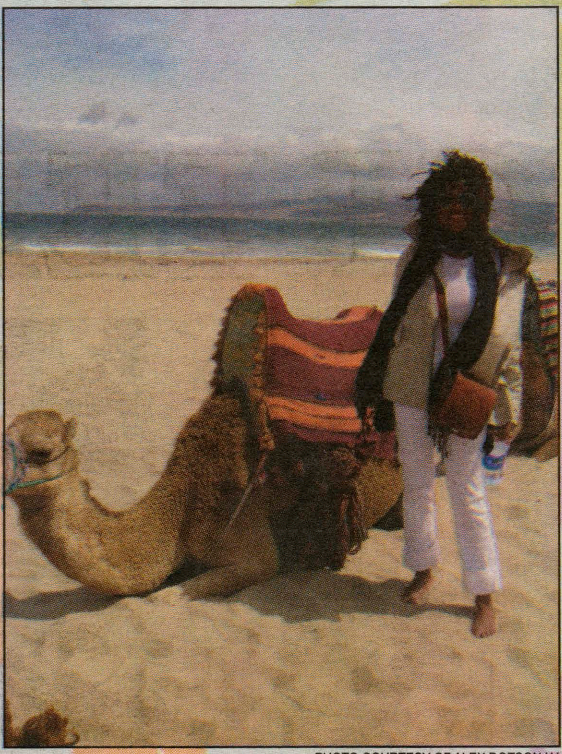


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX DOTSON '11

After returning from her research, Dotson is planning on applying to law school, particularly dual programs where she can receive her Master's in Women's Studies and Public Health as well as her law degree. From there, Dotson is hopes to work in the government and aims to work to place products for women's hair under stricter governmental control.

"My eventual life goal is to work with congress to pass new laws that better control what kinds of chemicals...are allowed in hair and skin products that are specifically marketed towards communities of color," Dotson said. "As well, I hope to extend this to a global level, working with the international community to stop cosmetic dumping to global south countries that don't have the same rules and regulations for cosmetic products as we do here."

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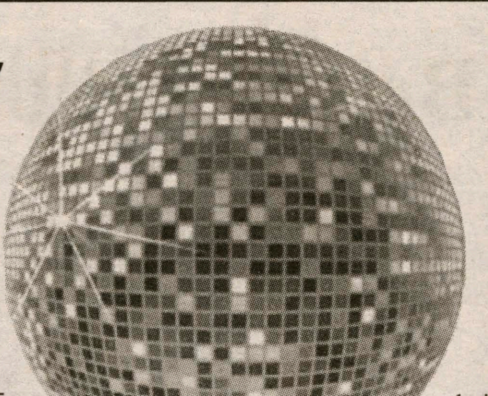

by Claire E. Carusillo '13
Features Editor

Hamilton students' favorite party of the year isn't in a social space. It isn't indoors. In fact, it doesn't even have a sound system. But Silent Disco's organizers, Will Kalbacker '11 and Jeremy Safran '11 prefer to keep it that way. "It's really important how inclusive the Silent Disco is. It isn't hosted by a social organization and it really isn't even hosted by anyone" said Safran, "Will and I really just point in a direction and say 'dance.'"

Safran is referencing the loose confines of the "designated social space," Minor Field, during the biannual Silent Disco, an event where students come together and dance to a synchronized playlist on their MP3 players. A week before the event, Kalbacker and Safran upload a playlist to a music sharing site for all students to download onto their own devices. On the night of the Silent Disco, Kalbacker and Safran count down to zero, at which point attendees press play simultaneously.

From there, things can get a little bit out-of-synch, but Safran pointed out that much of the fun derives from everyone interpreting the songs in different ways. Safran said that one of his favorite memories of Silent Disco 5 was taking off his headphones and listening to everyone belt Build Me Up Buttercup out of synch—and out of tune.

Though the planners stress the loose nature of the event and partygoers' chorale skills seem less than organized, Silent Disco at Hamilton has a storied tradition. The first Silent Disco was organized in 2007 by then-juniors Brendan Campbell '09 and Matthew Gordon '09 with the help of Jack Dunn '10, conceived as a birthday party for Gordon. The event was smaller and had an eclectic mix of music. Kalbacker and Safran, who were roommates constantly in search of new music online, asked the original organizers if they could carry on the tradition after they graduated.

From there, Silent Disco grew. "Our intention was to keep the tradition alive within our group of friends and whoever else cared to come along," said Kalbacker. "It's phenomenal that it has taken off and that so many people come out to enjoy it."

The first Silent Disco that Kalbacker and Safran organized was Silent Disco 3 during their second year at Hamilton.

The two hoped to honor the style of the previous two Silent Discos but also insert some of their own style into the party. "We were sophomores throwing a party for a bunch of upperclassmen, so I was a bit freaked out," said Safran.

Kalbacker and Safran trolled music blogs, Top 40 hits and their own music libraries to decide on the final 28 songs, a number which has become standard to their playlists. They began by creating separate lists and then combining the two by comparing and debating which songs would make the final cut. "We often [left] out songs that we personally love in favor of songs with more mass appeal and 'danceability,'" said Kalbacker.

Safran has his own theory as to what makes a song "danceable": "My perception of why I enjoy a good dance tune is the predictability of the song. A good dance song has unique and powerful variations that occur every once in a while during the song."

But in addition to danceability, Safran stressed that the song must also have some powerful lyrical content as well as crowd-pleasing abilities. "Once we realized we had to please more people than possible, we knew our best guess at what the majority would enjoy had to come from what we ourselves enjoyed the most. Thus, Katy Perry prevailed," said Safran.

Kalbacker and Safran had informal discussions with school administrators about liability of Silent Disco, as it is completely legal, yet not school-sanctioned. Even without official school approval, Kalbacker and Safran have experienced support from Campus Safety. During a legendary Silent Disco 4 moment, an officer drove his cruiser onto Minor Field. Believing they were being apprehended, students fled into the woods while Kalbacker explained to the officer that there was no alcohol or open containers.

As it turned out, a student had snuck into the officer's car as a joke and then asked for a ride back to the field. Surprisingly, the officer obliged. For the rest of Silent Disco 4, party-goers danced around the cruiser's flashing lights.

Kalbacker and Safran have been assured that after they both graduate in May, Katy Perry and the Silent Disco phenomenon will continue at Hamilton. "Almost instantly after our last playlist went up we experienced the deja vu of a young sophomore asking whether he could keep the tradition of the Silent Disco alive with his friend," said Safran.

Both immediately supported the idea of underclassmen taking over the Silent Disco. "The Disco is something that should evolve and grow with each new generation that takes it over," said Kalbacker.

Scan the QR Code above or go to http://www.mediafire.com/?ny9o75wycil3ithescoop to access an extended version of the Silent Disco 6 playlist.

Hamilton ♥s The Female Orgasm

by Sade Oyalowo '14
Features Contributor

"If you're interested in the female orgasm, let me hear you say 'oh yeah'!"

Hamilton students screamed "oh yeah!" Wednesday night in the Annex as sex educators Marshall Miller and Dorian Solot talked about how to have a first orgasm, how to have better ones and the myths surrounding masturbation. Bringing both male and female perspectives, The Female Orgasm combines sex education and women's empowerment with humor and honesty. From simultaneous orgasms, porn, ejaculation and locating the G spot, nothing was off topic for Miller and Solot.

The night started off with Solot describing her first orgasm to put the crowd at ease and debunking the many myths associated with masturbation. Towards the middle of discussion, they split the audience into two groups (males and females).

While the women shared first orgasm stories and had open Q and A, the guys discussed porn and women's sexuality.

Many students enjoyed the humor and honesty despite any discomfort it may have caused. "It was definitely eye-opening and not what I expected," said Jorge Mendieta '14. "I thought [the show] was basically going to be girl talk…but I really enjoyed it."

Sarah Sidford '13 added, "In high school I received what I thought was comprehensive sex ed, but going to [Female Orgasm] made me realize there is so much essential knowledge about our own bodies that we are not taught, which stems from America's fear of everything sexual and thinking of it as a dirty secret thing that shouldn't be done."

Hosted by the Womyn's Center for the third year, organizers stressed the importance of having Miller and Solot back on campus: "I feel like it's our responsibility to talk about female sexuality because no one else does…We do this to provide students with fun and better information," said Caty Taborda '11, a member of the Womyn's Center.

The Female Orgasm offers the opportunity to discuss positive body image, learning how to say "no" (and "yes," if you want) to sex, the female anatomy, tips on being patient and respectful to your partner, faking orgasms and more.

As they wrapped up the show, Solot and Miller left the audience with a parting wish: "[We] hope all of you guys have a good life—and many orgasms!

Mishmash musical is odd triumph

by Taylor Coe '13
Arts and Entertainment Editor

In reference to Jason Robert Brown's *Songs for a New World*, the word "musical" should be used carefully. The Untitled-at-Large production last Friday and Saturday, directed by Danielle Burby '12 with musical direction by Leigh Pomeranz '13, might be studiously referred to as a song-cycle rather than a musical.

While one might endlessly debate how to classify this production, I don't think it's unfair to tag it as a glorious mess. There's no plot to speak of—not even a glimpse of a steady character—but somehow, as if by some sort of demented trick, the music holds everything together and leaves nothing by the wayside.

There was, I suppose, a loose, general theme to the musical. But any attempt to put the puzzle pieces into place has only left me feeling unsatisfied. Curious as it sounds, I think that these songs were not meant to cohere. The closest this song-cycle comes to coherence is within the course of each single song.

"Each song is that moment in a person's life when it all falls to pieces," said Burby. "They realize that life isn't what they thought it was or they realize that they made a huge mistake… they have to either go forward or stay the same."

The songs all reflect this wistful idea, and some of the numbers are startling in their sensible, self-contained beauty. The stuttering, suicide-prone "Just One Step"—performed by Andrea Wrobel '13 from the window ledge at the back of the chapel—demanded my attention with every sputtering syllable and every madcap movement of Wrobel's figure. Junior Liz Chapin's caricature of Mrs. Claus in "Surabaya Santa" and senior Meg Clary's despondent existentialism in "Stars and the Moon" were equally brilliant.

Although the singing was lovely, it would have sounded empty without the crackerjack pit of Tim Carman '11 on drums, Chris Eaton '12 on bass and Leigh Pomeranz '13 on piano. Carman and Eaton's rhythm section was always ready to provide the songs with a driving beat or delicate brushstrokes; without that duo, the cast would only have been able to manage the pretty skeletons of a musical.

That said, the economy of the production—while visually appealing—suffered in terms of the sound. Without any microphones onstage, the pit often overwhelmed the singers' voices.

see *Musical,* page 12

WHCL

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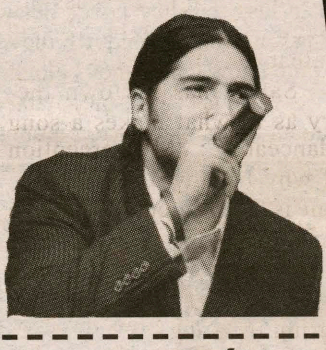
Hamilton College Chamber Ensembles
Friday, April 22 at 8 p.m.

Both events in Wellin hall

SpeakEasy

featuring spoken word artist Marco Mercado, DJ SuperNova and live art by Warcheerah



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Saturday, April 23
KJ Auditorium
Viewing starts at midnight

Blue Vinyl Radio presents:

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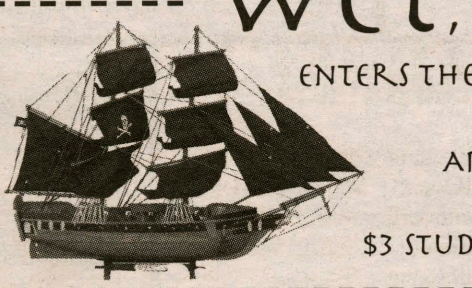
Saturday, April 23
At 9 p.m. Fillius Events Barn

WET, OR ISABELLA THE PIRATE QUEEN ENTERS THE HORSE LATITUDES



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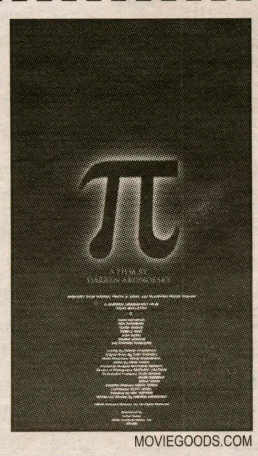
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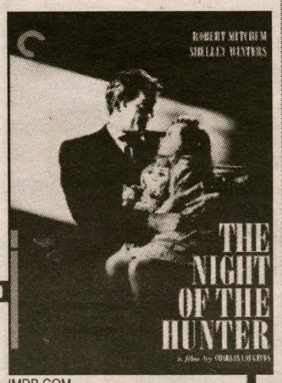
Late Movie:
π
10 p.m.

KJ Aud
April 22-24

Early Movie:
The Night of the Hunter
7 p.m.



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SK Films

Seniors demonstrate flair for the original

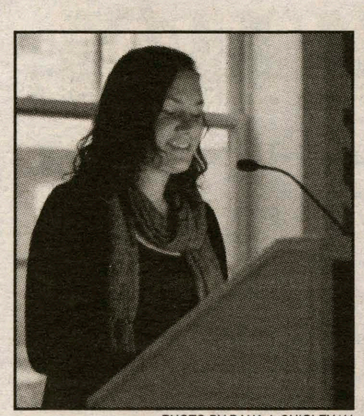


PHOTO BY DANA J. QUIGLEY '11

Mallory Joel, above, read Wednesday night, along with fellow senior concentrators.

Senior Creative Writing Concentrators:

Mallory Joel, Ryan Cadigan, Catherine Florea, Emma Simmons, Alyssa White, Scott Bickard, Kat Sargent, Jeff Chandler, Hali Baumstein, Marisa Low, Dana Quigley, Olivia Wolfgang-Smith, Daniel Keating, Zachary Haluza, Brooke Rayder, George Mierswa and Antonia Farzan.

by Rachel Pohl '11
Senior Editor

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 17 senior Creative Writing majors presented some of their favorite pieces in the Events Barn. Students read flash fiction and poetry, either pieces from their thesis class or works that had not yet been workshopped. Professor of English Naomi Guttman and Professor of English Doran Larson introduced each student, highlighting students' different writing styles and sources of inspiration.

Pieces ranged in topic, detailing students' experiences abroad, the blurring line between the foreign and familiar, intimacy and virginity loss, fictional towns, landscapes, love and new worlds.

Mallory Joel's works were inspired by her semester abroad in Kenya. Her first piece, "Reasons Why Martha Adelman No Longer Leaves the House," used repetition of the word "fear," in the "fear of missing her sons' calls" and the "fear that her son is not yet back from his drive home." Joel's second piece was about her 84-year-old grandmother, describing her favorite memories growing up and the reasons why she loves her grandmother.

Joel explained that her first piece tried to slowly describe the death of a woman's son. The prompt required Joel to use three words to describe something, so she began each line with "fear," "love" or "knowledge." Her inspiration came from listening to other people's stories, watching the news, listening to people in the dining hall and meeting people with interesting life stories.

"Hamilton is one of the only schools that even has a Creative Writing department," Joel said. "We have such an amazing department that part of our curriculum is reading the works of other professors and we get to sit down with professors for coffee hour and talk with them about their work, so that's really incredible."

Dana Quigley read a selection of prose poetry pieces based on his time abroad in Europe. He explained, "They're a modernization of the ancient haibun form." One piece was entitled, "My Dick Speaks Italian."

Ryan Cadigan read a darker piece about two friends, Luis and Sam, one of whom suffered from an eating disorder.

Emma Simmons read a variety of poems inspired by the Bible, a poem about her grandfather and a flash fiction piece inspired by Associate Professor of English Tina Hall. Alyssa White's pieces were mainly about home. She read chapters from her Peter Pan-inspired short novel, detailing Neverland and kids who never quite know where they belong.

Scott Bickard's piece talked about a fictional town, Tippingwane, and the towns' effort to retain a train license. It highlighted the life of a young man named Jack and his journey into manhood.

For her thesis, Olivia Wolfgang-Smith wrote a collection of short stories set in 1936-37—the first year of *Life*'s print run. She read from the first story in the collection, inspired by the cover story of *Life*'s first issue, which ran under the headline "10,000 Montana Relief Workers Make Whoopee on Saturday Night." It was a photo-essay about the WPA project building a dam in Fort Peck, Montana. Her story followed a fictional worker at the damsite as he dealt with a shifting sense of where home is and an unrequited romantic interest in the local barkeep.

Wolfgang-Smith noted: "It was a great night; we're lucky this year to have a group of strong seniors with diverse writing styles. It was wonderful to hear what everyone has been working on all semester."

Atypical musical is charitable success

from Musical, page 11

For a group of songs whose stories could only emerge from the lyrics, it proved a difficulty when words and phrases were lost behind piano chords and cymbal hits.

Despite the technological gaffes, the show managed to be a success. That word, "despite," characterizes my feeling of the production. Despite everything that could have gone wrong or could have felt misinformed, the show was lovely.

With Believe in Broadway as a springboard, this production has continued the practice of utilizing theater performances on the Hamilton campus to raise money for charity. In part because director Burby's sister is a juvenile diabetic, the proceeds of the show went to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The show raised $720 for the charity over three shows, including $100 donated by the Chapel's Sunday morning offertory.

Senior Art Show in the Emerson Gallery

The College seniors whose work will be on display in the exhibit include Lisa Buch, Anna Chelius, Katie He, Emi Katsuta, Carryn Mills, Julio Monterroso, Denise Ortega, Julia Rueckert, Suman Sarker, Nicole Schilder and Alicia Specht. The opening reception will be held on Thursday, April 21 in the Emerson Gallery and the exhibition will be open through May 22. The exhibition includes works of painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media and drawing. Included are four artists' descriptions of their work, including the basis for their inspirations and how they hope the audience perceives their work.

Denise Ortega:

PHOTO BY DENISE ORTEGA '11

"What continually guides me through the process of art making is the acknowledgment of many different interpretations of art and how we may feel when we see them. I have been inclined to explore this idea of perspective further by using nature to interpret how it influences me. For me, trees are the natural connectors between earth and sky. They mark the passage of time and show an ability to transform. My watercolor painting series, "A Journey through the Groves," demonstrates my spiritual connection to trees and discovery of the transformation that occurs in nature. I hope to invoke a spiritual awakening in my audience and a sentiment of appreciation for nature."

Julia Rueckert:

"In this project, I wanted to look at the boring and mundane objects that go unnoticed in daily life. These elements attract my eye and I found great interest in the industrial pipes in my Dunham basement studio. I wanted to explore the ways in which these objects are transformed the more we look at them. In studying form, shapes and color transcend what our eyes originally see. I wanted to use large-scale oil paintings to accentuate the subtle tones of color and an objects ability to mutate over time."

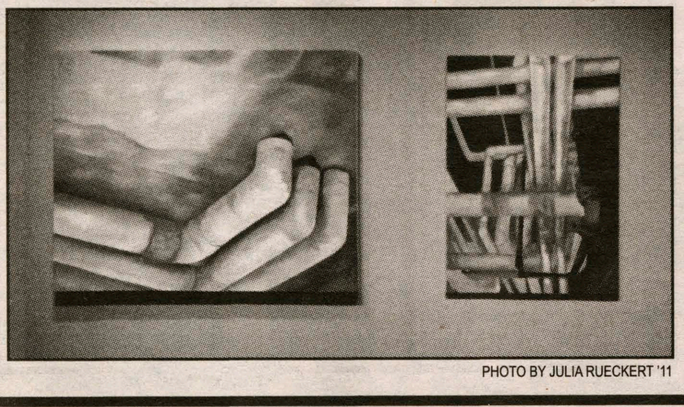


PHOTO BY JULIA RUECKERT '11

Emi Katsuta:

Katsuta's project "Kishi Kaisei" ("Wake from death and return to life") is composed of paintings and drawings.

"My project represents my perspective as a Japanese native removed from the homeland. Living in the United States has helped me see my own culture in a new light. Despite the modernized, ever-changing nation that we see in Japan today, it still holds its values at heart. After the recent disaster, I hope that these values will act as a keystone to bring the nation back to prosperity."

PHOTO BY ALICIA SPECHT '11

Alicia Specht:

I've been attracted to the world of the ocean since I was a child. As an artist, the forms of its creatures fascinate me. It was my goal to explore the different ways that wax, plaster, and ceramic can be used to reinterpret those strange, organic forms. As I developed these methods, I began weaving them together to create a single, complex piece, while pouring all of my fears and anxieties into its creation. Slowly, those emotions came to life in the form of a faceless, self-consuming monster that I think has haunted us all at some moment in our lives.

Wet: Female pirates and a tilting set shake up the Minor main stage

by Arianne Bergman '13
Arts and Entertainment Contributor

It's not every day that you can stump a team of MIT graduate students with a design problem. Even more remarkable is when you solve it yourself, which is exactly what a team of Hamilton students did in their set design for this semester's main stage production: *Wet, or Isabella the Pirate Queen Enters the Horse Latitudes*.

At this year's United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) Conference in Charlotte, NC, Hamilton students took home the trophy in the Jack Suesse Memorial "Stump the Rigger" Competition for their design work on *Wet*.

The show is worth seeing if for no other reason than the set. The stage slants down towards the audience, echoing back to the since-forgone theatrical tradition of a raked stage, where the back end of the stage is higher than the front end. Set designer Andrew Holland also said that the stage was angled in such a way because it is "important to telling the story that everything was a little off-kilter" as the play presents various worldviews. The moving stage and changing cloud lighting on the backdrop create the feeling of time passing, and the choice to have a constant soundtrack of ship noises brings the show to life.

Wet, as it is cordially known, is Liz Duffy Adams's story of three sailors and their captain drifting on their sinking vessel in the aftermath of a storm, and the three female pirates who board the ship. Adams spins her story out of these characters' narratives, providing the outlines for fascinating roles.

Unfortunately, the acting was not as amazing as the design. During several moments, especially in the numerous monologues, the actors seemed to merely be reciting a set of lines rather than really acting or playing a character. At other times, the acting was a bit overdone.

The cast did have good chemistry, however, and worked off each other well. There was genuine tenderness, and it was relatable—Ryan Park '12 had one such touching moment, as did Ilse Zoerb '11 and Kadahj Bennett '12.

Andrew Jillings, director of Outdoor Leadership, also played a role by helping set-up the rigging and flying apparatus. Said Holland: "Rigging in theaters is descended from the rigging on ships—old stage hands were originally sailors. The tie-in between sailing and theater was really fun to explore and exploit. I wish we could've explored that more—been able to sort of really come at it rather than it having it merely be a by-product…the exposed rigging is very nautical but also very theatrical."

If you glance over the moments of lesser acting, the show is worth the $3 and 90 minutes you spend. "It has so many layers and is about finding a place where there are only peaceable interactions. The show is about acceptance of your true emotions and about giving in to your intuition and desires," said Lauren Lanzotti '14. "I think that everyone will be able to find something relatable in this show. Also, the show weaves back and forth between racy humor and touching upon sad truths, and the dynamic script really makes it an enjoyable and unique experience."

Stage manager Kathleen Conners '13 suggested that audience members listen carefully to the script. "The lines themselves are very interesting, and the show is very witty…if you aren't paying attention, all of the best humor will pass you by." Lanzotti echoed that, advising audiences to see it twice in order to fully understand the humor and morality of the play. Holland believes that just about anyone would get something out of the show, unless "you're hoping for something turgid and stressful. This will not be that."

PHOTO BY TOM YOUNGBLOOD '13

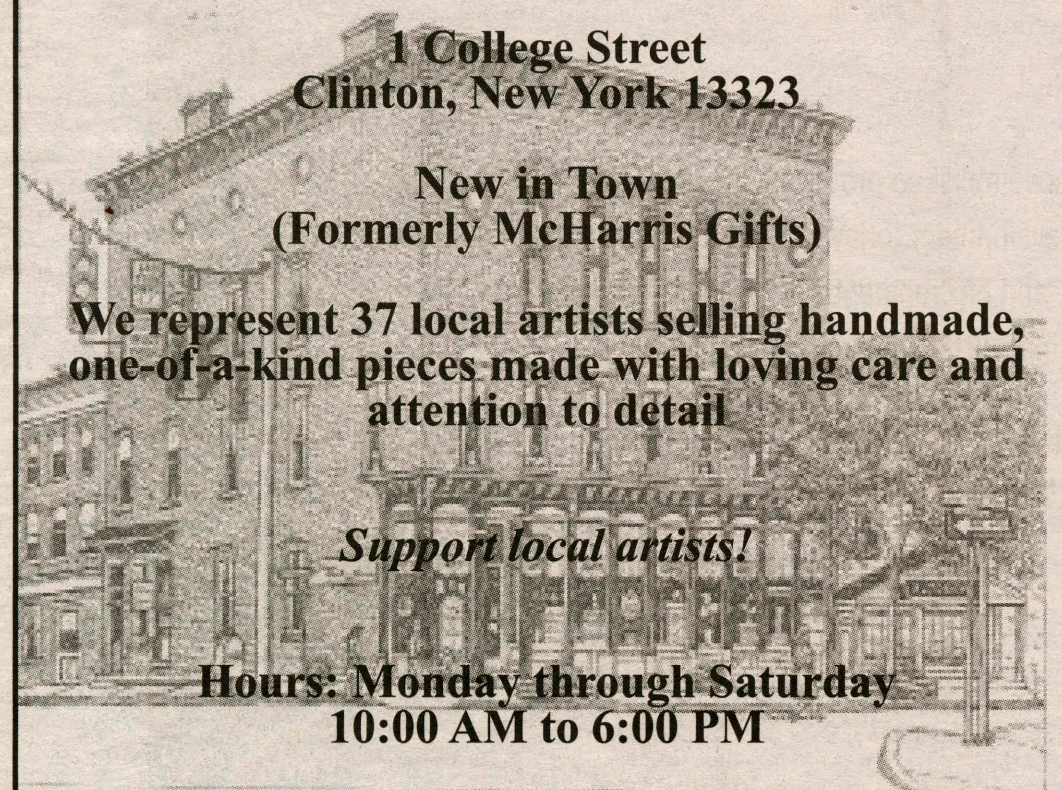
Clockwise, from top left: Sarah Kane '12, Kadahj Bennett '12 and Michael Breslin '13 on the set of spring production *Wet*.

The production will have three final performances:

Thursday, April 21
Friday, April 22
Saturday, April 23
Minor Theatre at 8 p.m.

$3 Students / $5 General

Artisans' Corner



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Crew teams hope to peak during post-season meets

by Cooper Creagan '13
Sports Staff Writer

Last week's sunshine allowed the men and women's crew teams to log some quality hours in the water, which has made them both a potent threat this season. The men and women were able to put their training to the test against tough RIT and St. Lawrence teams over the past couple weeks.

"The water time has helped our crews tremendously," Coach Eric Summers reported.

Indeed, both of the women's 8 varsity boats cruised past those of RIT the Saturday before last. Coach Summers remarked on the ease with which the first women's boat earned their victory: "We grabbed an early lead off the start and controlled the race from the front very easily," he said. The women had no trouble keeping their lead, gapping RIT by a full ten seconds.

The first boat wasn't the only one to have an admirable performance, according to Summers: "The women's second varsity had a very tight race and showed great composure."

Indeed, though they were behind to start, the women managed to "row RIT down in the third 500 meters of the race and open it up at the end." Summers recognized captain Pam Lewis '11 in particular for doing a "brilliant job" at maintaining the stroke rate of the boat and helping to procure the win.

Though the men fell four seconds behind RIT's lead boat, Coach Summers is nonetheless very pleased with their performance: "On the men's side, the varsity 8 had probably the best race of the day for us. RIT is traditionally a very strong program and to be only four seconds behind them at this point of the season is a good sign." Summers believes that though the men have made great headway so far, they have yet more to do: "We are still a little behind with our racing cadence," he said. "We struggled to match the rating of the RIT crew." That said, Summers liked what he saw enough to stay optimistic: "I think we can make a run at them later in the season at the NY State Championships."

> "The water time has helped our crews tremendously."
> *- Coach Summers*

Last Saturday, the men faced harder trials yet, competing in the cold and the rain against a strong St. Lawrence team. "The weather on Saturday was terrible," Summers remarked. "We were racing into a very strong headwind which did not favor our crew."

Summers handpicked a crew of lighter athletes in an attempt to gain an advantage over St. Lawrence, which made the conditions even more difficult for the Continentals. "While the guys rowed a gutsy race, the St. Lawrence crew was just bigger and handled the weather conditions a little better." The weather became so hazardous, in fact, that Summers had to cancel the regatta before the women had a chance to compete.

With the New York State Championships right around the corner and ECACs soon after that, Coach Summers is eager to see his athletes compete at the top of their game: "All year we have targeted our two championship races... as where we want to be our best." In fact, Summers has a very specific idea of what it means for the teams to "be their best:" "we would like all of our crews to make the Grand Finals and have a boat or two take home medals." With a break from competition this weekend, the athletes have that much more time to become sharp and ready to race at States – only time will tell if all the training pays off.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW POTERBA '12

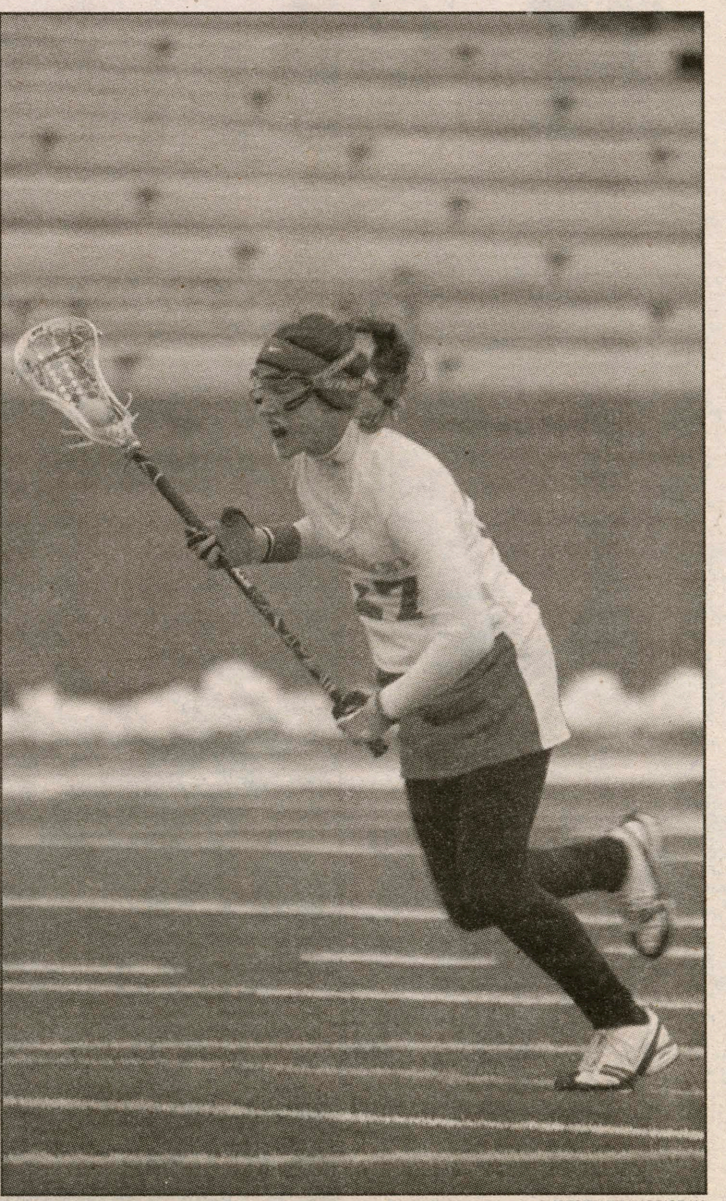

PHOTO BY KEVIN PRIOR '13

Friedman '13 has been vital for the Cont's offensive play.

Sarah Bray '11 leads Continentals in points and assists

from W. Lacrosse, page 16

and while the weather conditions were poor, Beaty commented, "the bad weather only makes us mentally tougher." Despite the poor conditions and being down by three at the half, the number two Continentals rallied to win a 14-9 game against number 18 Williams College.

During the win, Sarah Bray '11 tallied nine points (four goals and four assists) and Friedman scored five goals. Friedman commented on the victory: "Even though we were down at the half, we held our composure, capitalized on our opportunities and had good momentum in the second half." This is what ultimately led them to a successful win.

It is important that the Continentals finish the season on a high note going into playoffs and hopefully the Final Four. When asked what the team needs to do to finish the season on a strong note, Friedman comments, "In order to finish the season strong we have to keep improving as a team and just take every game individually and not get ahead of ourselves."

Their next home games are this weekend are against William Smith on Friday at 4 p.m. and University of Rochester on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Continentals use spring season to build experience

from Rugby, page 16

for a state championship as we have in the past.

Our goals for this spring have been mostly to gain useful experience in the sport itself and just have fun with the game."

Not only the men, but also the women are competing this spring season. Like the men's team, the women's team has been extremely successful in past years and hopes to continue this trend in the years to come. Accordingly, the team uses the spring season for scrimmage plays in preparation for the fall. The Continentals won their first home game against Union College 12-5, during which junior Polina White scored twice and senior Joanna Fier kicked for the two extra points. Earlier this month, the team competed against Cornell University, Yale University and Union at a tournament in Rhode Island.

Team captain Danielle Mortorano '12 explains that "this tournament was an excellent opportunity for our 18 rookies to gain experience playing against other Division I rugby teams. All of our new players did an amazing job, most notably Katy Smith '13, Emily Sherry '14, Julia Gelissen '14, Isabel Krakoff '14, Andrea Bucciarelli '14, Isabel Janzen '14 and Alice Henry '14."

At the same time, Mortorano also knows that the team's 11 seniors played a vital role in the Continentals' success. She said that each one of them is "dedicated to passing on their knowledge of the game to our younger players."

Like the men's team, the women will compete against Vassar College this weekend. They will conclude the season with the traditional home Prom Dress Scrimmage against Syracuse University on April 30.

Correction:

The Spectator would like to address an error in the April 14 article titled "Tennis teams break even." We mistakenly attributed the article to Sophie Hays '13 when it was actually written by Samantha Stoner '13, Sports Contributor.

April 21, 2011

SPECTATOR SPORTS

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Lacrosse beats out Liberty League competition

by Rebecca Hazlett '13
Sports Contributor

After dominating the Liberty League competition against Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Vassar, the women's lacrosse team faced tougher competition last weekend against St. Lawrence and Clarkson. Hamilton snuck out of St. Lawrence with a 9-7 win and beat Clarkson 14-7. Meg Pengue '12 was also selected the league's defensive performer of the week for the second straight week. Also, first-year Martha Plack was co-rookie of the week for the second consecutive week.

Last weekend, the Continentals faced two Liberty League teams in what seemed to be two close games. At one point in the St. Lawrence game, Hamilton was down 6-5 and officiating played a major role in the momentum of the game. Julia Beaty '13 commented, "Our assistant coach called for a time out but the refs never acknowledged it and the announcers announced it so the St. Lawrence girls stopped playing, which is when we scored our ninth goal." That was clearly a game changer, as it would have been 8-7 with a minute left, but the Continentals came out on top.

Clearly, teams are coming out strong against top ranked Hamilton. Rachel Friedman '13 remarked, "last weekend we had two good Liberty League games, and although they may not have been the best teams, they both showed up hard to play us."

The Continentals faced Williams this past Tuesday,

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Rugby enters scrimmage season

PHOTO BY MATTHEW FARRINGTON '12

Hamilton College and Clarkson University players in the pack during a match last year.

by Daniel Hagemeier '11
Senior Editor

For the men's rugby team, the 2011 spring season is playing out right according to plan.

The team collected its second win of the season last weekend against Hartwick College where first-year Mitchell Scher broke his nose. The team had previously won against the Saranac men's club at the Blue Balls Tournament. In the loss column, the Continentals have to account for three defeats, two at the Greased Weasel Tournament against Oswego University and Cortland University and one at the previously mentioned Blue Balls Tournament against the Army Rangers.

Overall, however, captain Marcus Sesin is happy with the team's play and specifically mentions sophomores Jake Taylor and Jack Messerly as key contributors. Sesin also said that "[we got] a lot of help in the pack from our captain 'Simple Jack' Kissel and senior Zach Stein."

However, Sesin also still sees room for improvement. He explained that "we need to work on getting the ball out more to our backs and on our ability to ruck against more aggressive teams."

The team currently features six first-year starters among the seven backline positions, and this lack of experience may be one reason for the fact that losses outnumber the wins so far.

Sesin, however, believes that the rookies will continue to take on greater roles for the team and he states that "for an inexperienced team I think we're playing very well." The validity of this outlook will be tested this weekend when the team takes on Vassar College.

Sesin says the team will need to a lot of work in preparation for next season. In particular he said, "We'll need to bulk up this offseason in the gym and make sure that we come back on campus in great shape if we want to compete

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Hamilton softball strikes out cancer

by Hannah Grace O'Connell '14
Sports Writer

"Currently ranked 22nd in the nation for fielding percentage, the Continental defense has been absolutely outstanding this spring. We see big things coming this season offensively as we have a stacked line up of slappers and power hitters," Amanda Nardi '11 said.

The women's softball team is working their way to victory both on and off the field, as they continue in their season and take time to raise money to fight cancer.

The latter was part of a very successful and fittingly named fundraiser, "Beat Cancer with a Bat." Working with the National Foundation for Cancer Research, the softball team sold t-shirts and baked goods in Beinecke in preparation for their home games against Middlebury on Friday, Apr. 15. Although Hamilton lost the game, they helped to bring cancer research awareness to campus and unite fans under a good cause.

As the season progresses, the team has become even stronger and its success has continued to grow. In an incredibly successful double-header at home against Morrisville State, Continental fans were able to cheer on the Hamilton women as they achieved two victories in a row, winning 9-7 and 8-0. The team had a spectacular win over SUNY Cobleskill on April 14. The Continental women had some of their strongest showings of the season during a double-header away. In their first game Hamilton won 8-5, and defeated Cobleskill by an impressive 16-2 in the second.

The next team for Hamilton to face is an away double-header against Williams on Friday, April 22. Fans should begin to look forward to their next home showing, a double-header on Monday, April 25 against SUNYIT. Games will be held on Ferguson Fields at 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

PHOTO BY CECELIE PIKUS '13

Melissa Kaknis '13, Leigh Sherrow '11 get ready for the next play in the field during a Continentals' home meet.